STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE



INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER NORTH 100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE N1058(B) INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204 PHONE (317) 232-3777 FAX (317) 232-8779

TO:

County Assessors and Auditors

FROM:

Cheryl A. W. Musgrave, Commissioner

DATE:

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

RE:

Sales Disclosure Filings for Easements and Right-of-Way Grants

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1. In response to numerous questions the Department of Local Government Finance ("Department") has received about how to handle sales disclosures for easements and right-of-way grants, the Department presents the following guidance:

2. According to IC 6-1.1-5.5, a "conveyance document" is defined as the following:

- a. Any of the following that purports to transfer a real property interest for valuable consideration:
 - (1) A document.
 - (2) A deed.
 - (3) A contract of sale.
 - (4) An agreement
 - (5) A judgment.
 - (6) A lease that includes fee simple estate and is for period in excess of ninety (90) years.
 - (7) A quitclaim deed serving as a source of title.
 - (8) Another document presented for recording.
- b. Documents for compulsory transactions as a result of foreclosure or express threat of foreclosure, divorce, court order, condemnation, or probate.
- c. Documents involving the partition of land between tenants in common, joint tenants, or tenants by the entirety.
- 3. An easement or right-of-way would fall under the aforementioned definition in paragraph 2a.(8) of "another document presented for recording." With this in mind, any easement or right-of-way grant that is presented for recording for valuable consideration requires a sales disclosure form be submitted and the fee be charged.

HOW TO FILL OUT A SALES DISCLOSURE FORM FOR VALUABLE CONSIDERATION EASEMENT OR RIGHT-OF-WAY GRANT

4. For a valuable consideration easement or right-of-way grant, under part B the buyer should check #1 as "Yes"-- a transfer of real property interest for valuable consideration. The buyer should check #15 "No" to avoid confusion about whether a fee is necessary. A special note should then be made under section C-3 stating that this transfer is an easement or right-of-way grant for valuable consideration.

EASEMENTS AND RIGHT-OF-WAY GRANTS WHERE NO SALES DISCLOSURE FORM IS REQUIRED

- 5. No Sales Disclosure Form is required in the following instances:
 - a. Non-permanent easements; and
 - b. Easements for no valuable consideration

Please direct any questions about this memorandum to Tim Jorczak, Assistant Director of Operations, at <u>tjorczak@dlgf.in.gov</u>.